# Rossport's Anne Todesco fills us in

By Anne Todesco

Rossport, Ontario, Dec. 20, 1987- The Mushquash family all met in Nipigon for the Christmas weekend as a family reunion, the first in eight years that the family will be together.

Miss Camilla Todesco, BA, MSW, of Toronto, spent the Christmas weekend with her mother Anne Todesco.

Mrs. Emma Molinski has returned from the hospital. Welcome back Emma. She had Christmas with her two sons Lorne and Michael.

Mrs. Frances Campbell has left to spend the winter months in Florida and to visit her daughter and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Romeo Bouchard have returned from Sudbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Legault are planning on a gathering at their son John's new home in Terrace Bay; all members of their family, including their two grandchildren Amy and Grant, were there.

Lorenda Bain is home from the hospital. She spent Christmas with her parents Nick and Gail Bain and family.

Mrs. Lillian Ray is also home from the Port Arthur General Hospital. Welcome home Lily and I hope you enjoyed Christmas with your family.

Karin Brassard was home from Toronto where she is attending Seneca College taking business administration and accounting.

Her brother Richard was also home from high school in Thunder Bay.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave McCullough and son Barry are holidaying in Kingston, Ontario.

The Roman Catholic Ladies' Altar Society had their annual Christmas party and meeting on Thursday evening at President Prina Gerow's home.

The meeting opened with a prayer and a welcome greeting by Mrs. Gerow. Laura Legault read the minutes and the correspondence.

The members decided to continue sponsoring a young seminarian. A discussion was had on to what extent should Mass and Get Well Cards or flowers be sent to community shut ins, or in case of illness or death, choir practice, church flowers, and setting up the crib.

Following the closing prayers for the sick of the parish, there was an exchange of gifts, then the members sat down to a supperthe tables were decorated in the Christmas theme.

The next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Freda Gerow; the date to be announced later.

Sleigh ride- No, we haven't a sleigh or a horse in the village anymore, so it is dubbed a hayride with carol singing about the village.

A tractor was hooked up to a float bed; seats on it with plenty of hay on the bed to keep toes warm.

### NOTICE

The Voyageur Restaraunt 1988 Calendar Phone number should read: 824-2590. Sorry for any inconvenience.

It was hauled about the streets of the village with the passengers singing carols as they moved along; but stopped at the homes of senior citizens and shut ins for a special rendering of the carols.

This brought JOY to all- then it was off to the community hall for hot chocolate for the children and mulled wine for the adults.

Then everyone joined in the task of decorating the huge tree. Santa Claus called with Lauri Halonen.

He passed out bags of candy to the children. The children threaded popcorn for the tree. Lunch was served and carols sung with Dave Speer presiding at the pianc and a jolly old Christmas party was enjoyed with an old fashioned taffy pull; with some sticky fingers; but Oh, was it ever great for the ending of a Happy Christmas Party and a meeting of old friends.

Our Heritage

So many Canadians have not kept track of their background. hence, they have lost their identity with whatever country their ancestors came from; and they also lost family history.

In realizing what ancestors have done, more interest in heraldry is increasing.

This is especially true among people who have a measure of family pride and who resent attempts of our society to reduce each individual to a series of numbers stored somewhere in a

computer.

In our matter-of-fact day and age, a "Coat of Arms" is one way our rare devices remaining can provide an incentive to preserve our heritage. Let us hope that it is not just a wall decoration.

Surname

It was about the year 1,100 AD, when most people in Europe had only one name, their given name such as Peter, John, Mary,

This habit is still practiced and true in some of the primitive countries of the world.

As the population increased, there became too may Johns, Jameses, Toms, Marys, Susans, etc, which made it quite awkward to distinguish them apart.

There had to be a second name which is our surname of today; so father's occupation, or where he lived or some peculiar characteristic became our surname.

IF John the father was a carpenter, he would automatically become Mr. John Carpenter, or John Sawyer, or John Hammer; or if the father was a grinder, he could become John Miller, or John Mills.

If a man was blind, he could be Mr. John Blind or Blinder, or if he lived over the hill, he could be known as John Hiller or Hiller.

If he could be someone who could throw a stone or a ball he could take the surname of Thrower, Ball, Stone, Stonewell or Overhill; if he was near a

stream, Streamer, Brook, Water, Rivers, or Atbrooke.

So that is the way we were all to have a surname. Many of these surnames can be recognized by adding "son"- resulting in Johnson, Williamson, Thompson. Peterson, etc., which denoted that they were sons of Peter, or John.

In some countries, the giver name had different endings but all meant the word Son. Naming a few: Armen added Ian; the Danes and Norwegians added Sen, such as Andersen or Williamsen; Finns added Nen, such as Pickonen; the Greeks added Pulos; Spaniards added Ez; Poles added Wiecz, or the Normans added prefixes of Fitz; the Welsh, the Scots and the Irish added Mac or Mc.

The Irish prefix means grandfather instead of Father.

Only a few examples as to how our ancestors invented our surnames were invented by our ancestors but all are part of our heritage.

Some of the characteristics that helped our ancestors to give a family name, to name a few: if a

man was small he could be named Small, or Smallwood, if near a forest; Mr. Forest, Bush, Treeman, or Mr. Short or Mr. Little.

If a big man, he could be Longfellow, or Tallman; if a man had sly ways like a fox, he could be named Mr. Fox, Foxman, or

Then some were named after birds and other animals or actions: Mr. Sly, Mr. Partridge, Swimmer, Dove, Bird, Birch, Deerhead, etc.

Fighting men of early days wore suits of metal from head to toe, carried a shield, and wore a large cape-like cloak or coat.

They had their insignia of their shield as a sign to indicate that they wouldn't be killing a friend or relative.

Records were kept of each warrior's insignia. Each family's coat of arms refers to their family's history.

The words Coat of Arms were taken into history from referring to the coat or cloak worn over the suit of armor.



Thunder Bay District Health Unit

will be holding a series of Pre-Natal Classes commencing on March 22. To register, please call 824-2413 mornings only.

# THE LAKE NIPIGON LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

IS HOLDING AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ON JANUARY 23, 1988 3 P.M. AT THE NIPIGON CURLING CLUB

INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL

#### THANK YOU

The members of Superior Snow-Goers would like to thank the following busines for donating trophies for the snowmobile races that were held on January 9, 1988 in Jackfish.

Cullmar Construction D&H Shell Churchley's John's Texaco

Reid Engraving Spadoni's (Schreiber) Norcon Terrace Bay Enterprizes Terry's Sight and Sound

Home Hardware Towne Cinema Terrace Bay Insurance Waghorn's Pharmacy Bisco Terrace Bay Bakery Cebrario's Robinson's

Thanks to their generosity, this event was a success.

#### SCHREIBER PUBLIC LIBRARY

presents

Pre-School Story Hour - ages 3 -5 with Amber Pennyfeather, will commence Wednesday, January 27th. Pre-register at the library.

Children's Story Hour - ages 5-10 with Louise Stefurak will commence Saturday, January 30th. Pre-register at the library.

The Women's Drop In will meet Monday, January 25th from 1:30 - 3:00 at the library. For further information contact the library or Georgette Cebrario.

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